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March 19, 2001

Box RESPONSES—NO FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Re: United States Patent Application
Serial No.: 09/612,894
Entitled: **COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR REGULATION
OF STERIDOGENESIS**
TTUHSC Designation No.: D-0210
Our Reference No.: 18491.40

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing are the following documents:

1. Preliminary Amendment; and
2. Acknowledgment Post Card.

The undersigned believes that no fee is required for this submission. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3483.

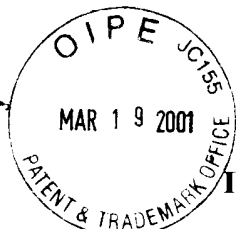
Respectfully submitted,

W. Bradley Barnes
Reg. No. 46,538

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Enclosures

cc: Dr. H. Walter Haussler (w/o encl.)
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Ms. Glenda Robinson Helfrich (w/o encl.)
Mr. Lance Anderson (w/o encl.)
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Mr. Court B. Allen [Firm] (w/o encl.)
Mr. J. Daniel Harkins [Firm] (w/o encl.)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Stocco, et al.

Serial No. **09/612,894**

Title: **COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS
FOR REGULATION OF
STERIDOGENESIS**

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Atty Docket No. **18491.40**

Filing Date: **07/10/00**

Group Art Unit: **1656**

Examiner: **J. Riley**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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Box Response--No Fee
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 22 2001

1600/2900

Madam:

The present paper is a Preliminary Amendment to be entered in U.S. Serial No. 09/612,894. This Preliminary Amendment is submitted before the first office action on the merits. No fees are believed due for the submission of this Preliminary Amendment; however, should any fees be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct any such fees from Deposit Account No. 03-3483.

Preliminary Amendment

In the Claims:

Please add the following claims:

--41. A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein having an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 18.--

--42. The purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein of claim 41 defined further as being phosphorylated.--

--43. A purified steroidogenic acute regulatory protein having an amino acid sequence essentially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 18.--